Indiana Department of Environmental Management
We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.
100 N. Senate Avenue • Indianapolis, IN 46204
(800) 451-6027 • (317) 232-8603 • www.idem.IN.gov

Michael R. Pence
Governor

Carol S. Comer
Commissioner

2016 Screening Levels Table Now Available
Clarification Regarding Application of Trichloroethene Indoor Air Screening Levels

March 7, 2016

A link to IDEM's 2016 screening levels table (Table A-6) is, or soon will be, available on the IDEM Screening and Closure Level Tables webpage at http://www.in.gov/idem/landquality/2395.htm. As noted on page 10 of the *Remediation Program Guide*, a six-month transition period applies to the new tables.

The 2016 version of Table A-6 includes all of the chemicals found in the 2015 table with the exception of antimony potassium tartrate and propylene glycol monoethyl ether which were removed. Table A-6 contains new entries for the following chemicals: carbonyl sulfide; ethanol, 2-(2-methoxyethoxy)-; lewisite; picric acid (2,4,6-trinitrophenol); sodium tungstate; sodium tungstate dihydrate; trifluoroethane, 1,1,1-; trimethylpentene, 2,4,4-; tris(2,3-dibromopropyl)phosphate; and tungsten. In addition, common chemical names were replaced with technical names for numerous pesticides.

The table also reflects numerous changes in various screening levels. A majority of the changes are of limited magnitude or pertain to chemicals that do not commonly drive risk. The table incorporates broad updates by the U.S. EPA, including new source data for chemical parameters and new criteria for defining volatility.

U.S. EPA Region 9 and certain states have been regulating trichloroethene (TCE) indoor air exposures with an Accelerated Response Action Level (ARAL) of 2 ug/m^3 for residential and 9 ug/m^3 for commercial scenarios. The ARAL is based in part on the developmental toxicity endpoint of increased incidence of fetal cardiac malformations. This approach has been highly controversial (the results obtained in the original study indicating increased incidence of fetal cardiac malformations have not been replicated despite several attempts to do so) and has proven to be very problematic as a policy. The majority of states and U.S. EPA regions are not implementing this approach.

IDEM has recently concluded that an accelerated response is not scientifically supportable based upon current information. We will continue to evaluate TCE indoor air exposures in the same manner as other VOCs with an indoor air screening level (2 ug/m^3 for TCE residential) and an action level that is an order of magnitude higher than the indoor air screening level (20 ug/m^3 for TCE residential). This approach is consistent with the current RCG procedures as well as that of the majority of state regulatory programs.

Please direct inquiries to IDEM staff at 317-232-3215.